KROGER CO Form 4 October 19, 2009

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005
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Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

response... 0.5

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Addi JOHNSON CA	*	ng Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)
1014 VINE ST	REET		(Month/Day/Year) 10/16/2009	Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below) Group Vice President
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
CINCINNATI	, OH 45202		Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

	(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-l	Derivative	e Secu	rities Acqui	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
S	Title of eccurity Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)		sed of	` ′	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
	Common Stock	10/16/2009		M	4,024	A	\$ 16.5938	53,033	D	
	Common Stock	10/16/2009		S(1)	4,024	D	\$ 24	49,009	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on f Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Shares
Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option	\$ 16.5938	10/16/2009		M	4,024	(2)	02/11/2010	Common Stock	4,02

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

JOHNSON CARVER L 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Group Vice President

Signatures

/S/ Carver L. Johnson, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact

10/19/2009

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on October 6, 2009.
 - These options will vest during the first four years from the date of the grant only if the Company's stock price has achieved an 81% appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 16%
- appreciation from the option price. Thereafter, the options vest only if the Company's stock price has achieved a minimum 16% appreciation per annum from the date of grant or 280% appreciation, whichever is less. The options vest nine years and six months after grant, if not sooner vested.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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